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## AGRICULTURE.

### Milk and its Management.

Here are some wholesome suggestions in regard to milking and the management of milk, in the dairy, which we condense from an English work on the subject.

The operation of milking should be performed gently, not harshly. If harshly performed it becomes painful to the cow, who not unfrequently brings into action her faculty of retaining her milk at pleasure. When gently performed, milking generally gives pleasure to the cow. Many instances are recorded where cows which would not let down a single drop of milk to one dairy maid, would let it flow in abundance wherever another approached them.

Cows that are tickish or skittish should always be treated with the utmost gentleness, and when the udder is hard and painful, it should be tenderly fomented with luke-warm water and softly rubbed. Such treatment will bring the cow into good temper, and induce her to yield her milk freely.

Whenever a cow's teats become scratched or wounded, so as to produce foul milk, such milk should on no account be mixed with the sweet milk, but be given to the pigs without being carried to the milk house, lest its presence should taint the atmosphere and prove injurious to the other milk.

It is well to comb and brush cows, as it promotes cleanliness. The fact is, where clean milk is an object, the comb and brush, together with the thorough washing of the udder, are indispensable.

Snuff takers and slovens should never be permitted to assist about the dairy, nor should the milkers be permitted to enter it with a dirty apron covered with hairs from the cow house.

1. Of the milk from any cow at one time, that part which comes off first is always thinner, and of a much worse quality for making butter, than that afterwards obtained; and this richness continues to increase progressively to the very last drop that can be obtained.

2. If the milk be put into a dish, and allowed to stand till it throws up cream, the portion of cream rising first to the surface is richer in quality than that which rises in a second equal space of time; and the cream which rises in the second interval of time is greater in quantity, and richer in quality, than that which rises in a third equal space of time; that of the third is greater than that of the fourth, and so on of the rest; the cream that rises continuing progressively to decrease in quality so long as any rises to the surface.

3. Thick milk always throws up a much smaller proportion of the cream which it actually contains than milk that is thinner; but the cream is of richer quality; and if water be added to that thick milk, it will afford a considerable greater quantity of cream, and consequently more butter, than it would have done if allowed to remain pure; but its quality is, at the same time, greatly debased.

4. Milk which is put into a bucket, or other proper vessel, and carried in it to a considerable distance, so as to be much agitated, and in part cooled before it is put into the milk pans to settle for cream, never throws up so much or so rich cream as if the same milk had been put into the milk-pans directly after it was milked.

From these fundamental facts, the reflecting dairyist will derive many important practical rules. Some of these we shall enumerate, and leave the rest to be discovered. Cows should be milked as near the dairy as possible, in order to prevent the necessity of carrying and cooling

the milk before it is put into the creaming dishes. Every cow's milk should be kept separate till the peculiar properties of each is so well known as to admit of their being classed, when those that are most nearly allied may be mixed together. When it is intended to make butter of a very fine quality reject entirely the milk of all those cows which yield cream of a bad quality, and also keep the milk which is first drawn from the cow at each milking entirely separate from that which is last obtained, as the quality of the butter must otherwise be greatly debased, without materially augmenting its quantity. For the same purpose, take only the cream that is first separated from the last drawn milk.

### Thinning out Vegetables.

There is greater loss in suffering vegetables to stand too thick, than most cultivators are aware of. It does require considerable nerve to commit indiscriminate slaughter upon fine growing plants. For instance, here are ten beautiful melon vines, just beginning to run, with fruit blossoms forming. Now, who has the bold hardihood to draw them all out but three or four, and throw them wilting away? Who can take the beets just as their tops give evidence of roots below, and separate them to ten inches? It is a hard matter, we must confess, and is not properly done one time in twenty; but to have bulbs, top-roots, melons, cucumbers, or squashes, it must now be done, and the increased vigor of the remaining plants will repay the trouble. Then fall to and spare not; no top-rooted plant or bulb should stand so thick that the hoe will not pass freely between them.—No vine should have more than four or five plants left in a hill.

Snap beans look so pretty growing thick that we hate to disturb them; but if you would have the bushes yield their pendant treasures, thin out to ten inches. We know of nothing that will bear as thick planting as English peas; in place of thinning them, shade the ground around them; now that they are in bloom and in pod they will continue in fruit much longer; the shade enriches the land and saves culture. It is not always those that make the earliest and best; but those who thin judiciously and cultivate understandingly. Most gardeners plant seed too thick, trusting to thinning out in their growing state, but alas! they look so inviting and plead so eloquently for life, that degenerate inferior plants are the rewards of our false philosophy.—*Exchange paper.*

HOW SHOULD CREAM BE KEPT?—This question is often asked, and is answered in different ways. We say that cream is sweeter when kept out of a damp cellar or well, that when kept in it. Cream is kept best in a cool back room above ground, or chiefly so. It ought to be stirred daily, while it is kept, otherwise mouldy particles gather on the surface of the pots.

Milk also set for cream, yields more cream when it is placed above ground than when placed in cellars, and rises sooner also. Any one may prove this by a trial of both modes.—Much is said about keeping cream sweet, but cream perfectly sweet is not easily churned. It should undergo a change in order to make good butter. The act of churning produces a chemical change in the cream, and though the cream may have a sour taste, the butter is not necessarily sour—the nature of it is changed in churning.

A room above ground, on the north side of a large building, well shaded with trees, is a better place for setting cream than any damp cellar that we have ever seen. In such a room the cream will all rise in thirty-six hours,—that is, all that is really valuable.—*Mass Ploughman.*

## AN ACT

For the better establishment and maintenance of the Parish Schools.

Passed 7th April 1852.

[Concluded.]

17. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent, under the direction of the Board of Education, annually to apportion all the money granted or provided by the Legislature for the support of Parish Schools, and not otherwise appropriated, among the several Parishes in the respective Counties, in proportion to the number and classes of Schools reported by the Inspectors respectively to have been efficiently conducted in the preceding year, not exceeding an average of two hundred pounds to each Parish in any one County, nor two hundred and sixty pounds to any one Parish therein; and to see that the moneys so apportioned are applied to the purposes for which granted; and insomuch as no reports have been made for the last year, the said apportionment shall for the present year be made according to the number and description of Schools certified by the several Courts of Sessions during the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty one.

18. The Teachers shall be entitled to receive from the Provincial Treasurer for teaching School under this Act, at and after the following rates, that is to say: Male Teachers of the first class, at and after the rate of thirty pounds per annum; of the second class, at and after the rate of twenty-four pounds per annum; and of the third class, at and after the rate of eighteen pounds per annum; and Female Teachers of the first class, at and after the rate of twenty-two pounds per annum; of the second class, at and after the rate of eighteen pounds per annum; and of the third class, at and after the rate of fourteen pounds per annum: provided that no Teacher shall be entitled to be paid for teaching for a less period than six months, without the special sanction of the Board of Education, nor unless the inhabitants of the School district shall in each and every case have subscribed and paid towards the support of the Teacher, at the same rate, and in the same proportion as the Provincial allowance to the Teachers granted in this section is to be paid; or shall have furnished such Teacher with board, washing and lodging, and such accommodations as may be necessary for the reasonable comfort of the Teacher during the period for which the School shall have been taught, being not less than six months; or shall have raised by Parish or district assessment as hereinafter provided, an amount equal to the sum to be subscribed and paid for the support of the Teacher by the inhabitants of each School district as aforesaid.

19. When any School shall have been taught for a period of not less than six months in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Teacher shall exhibit to the Inspector of the County the original School Register and any other document or returns prescribed by the Superintendent, and duplicates thereof; and if the said Inspector shall be satisfied that the School has been regularly kept, and the law complied with, he shall countersign the said School Register and other documents or returns or the duplicates, with or without writing any special remarks thereon, and deliver them to the Teacher, together with a certificate in the following form, to be by such Teacher, together with the countersigned original or duplicate register and other documents and returns, forthwith transmitted by Post to the Superintendent:—

"I, A. B., the Inspector of Schools for the County of \_\_\_\_\_ do certify to the Provincial Board of Education, that in District number \_\_\_\_\_ (or called \_\_\_\_\_) a School House has been erected or provided; that C. D., a Teacher,

being a British subject of moral and sober habits, duly licenced, and of the \_\_\_\_\_ class of Teachers, has actually taught therein for the period of six months, that is, from the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ instant, (or last), to my satisfaction; and that the inhabitants of the said District (or Parish as the case may be) have subscribed and paid (or been assessed and paid, according to the fact) the sum of \_\_\_\_\_, (or have furnished the said Teacher during the said period with board, washing and lodging,) towards the support of the said School.

A. B.

Inspector of Schools

for the County of \_\_\_\_\_

[Place and date of signing.]

20. The Superintendent shall at least semi-annually, under the direction of the Board, make out for each period a detailed Schedule for each County of all the Schools therein for which the requisite certificates, registers and other returns have been received by him, and approved by the Board, specifying in each such Schedule the name, sex and class of each Teacher, the District, Parish and County in which and the period during which each School has been kept, and the amount to be paid to each Teacher, and shall certify and transmit the same forthwith to the Secretary of the Province; and Warrants on the Treasury, under the Hand and Seal of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the time being, shall thereupon be issued in such manner as may from time to time be directed by the said Board for the remuneration of the several Teachers named in each Schedule, to the amount therein specified, being at and after the rate set forth in this Act; provided that no greater sum than two hundred and sixty pounds for any one year, or one hundred and thirty pounds for any half year, shall be drawn from the Provincial Treasury for the Schools of any one Parish, any greater allowance be made to any one County than an average of two hundred pounds for one year, or one hundred pounds for a half year, for each and every Parish therein, (except as hereinafter provided,) to be apportioned and allowed according to the scale that shall from year to year be made by the Superintendent under the authority of the seventeenth section of this Act.

21. It shall be the duty of the Trustees of Schools and they are hereby authorized and required, to admit free scholars, being the children of poor and indigent parents, into the Schools in their respective districts; provided that no greater number than five free scholars shall be admitted and taught in any one School at one and the same time.

22. And for the purpose of raising money by assessment for the support of the Parish School Teachers, the erection or repair of School Houses, and the providing of fuel, light and other necessaries, or the supply of books, maps and apparatus, the following proceedings may be had:—On the application of ten or more resident freeholders and householders in any Parish, or of five or more resident freeholders or householders in any School district, the School Trustees, or any two of them, at the cost of the applicants, shall, by notice advertised for at least twenty days in a newspaper, if any be published in the Parish, and also posted for the like period in five or more Public places in such Parish or district, call, attend and Preside at a public meeting of the inhabitants rateable upon property in the Parish or district; and if a majority of the rate payers upon property present at such meeting, (there being present not less than twenty in the case of a Parish, or ten in